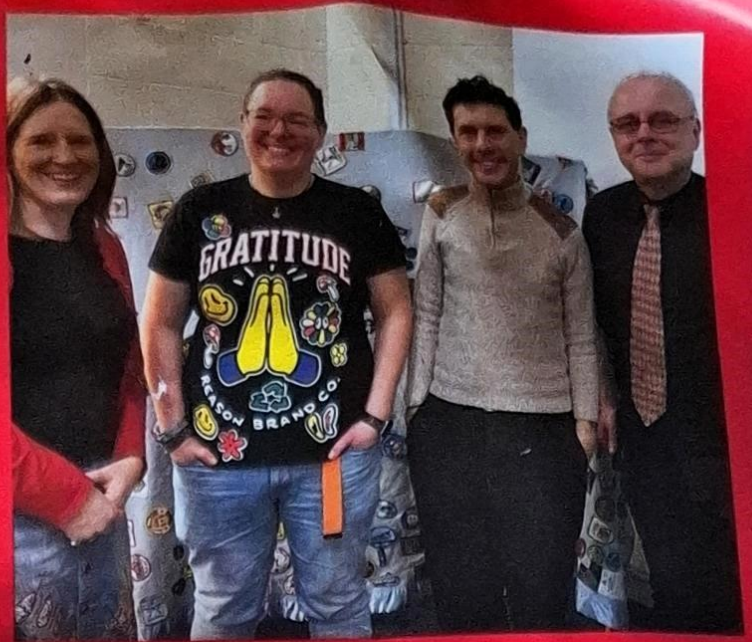


# Kirkstall Labour News



## Another busy year for your Kirkstall Labour team

Our successes in 2024 included creating a safe crossing point at Spen Lane/Morris Lane/Vesper Road, refurbishing the Wolsley Road and Sandford Road playgrounds and securing funding for the new Burley Park tennis courts. We have undertaken regular environmental action days across the ward and welcomed the council's introduction of green bin glass recycling. Through our regular surgeries and contact with residents, we have helped hundreds of residents with a range of problems including housing,

social care and repairs. We have enjoyed regular annual events like the Kirkstall Festival - for Fiona, judging the Dog Show at the Festival is one of the highlights of the year. And, of course, we were delighted by big wins for Labour in the Council and General Elections. We wish you a positive 2025 and please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help you in any way.



## Labour backs renters' rights

The Labour Government is moving fast to introduce new measures in its Renters' Rights Bill which will benefit local residents, and safeguard both tenants and landlords. After years of inaction under the last Tory Government we are acting to give people securer homes.

The bill will ban Section 21 'no-fault' evictions, give renters the right to push back against unsafe living conditions and ban rental bidding wars. It will also allow renters to appeal above-market rent increases, and give them the right to request a pet.

Councils will receive additional powers to allow them to enforce these measures. The Bill will apply a Decent Homes Standard to the sector for the first time. Your Labour Councillors will make sure that Leeds Council takes action against rogue landlords.

Cllr Hannah Bithell said,

“Tackling the blight of poor-quality homes is a priority for the Government. Many residents of Kirkstall live in a property in the private rented sector, so I am really pleased that these long overdue reforms will introduce new rights and protections.”

## Better buses en route with Labour

The new Labour Government has committed to giving local authorities the powers to run bus services. Buses were privatised under the Thatcher Tory Government in the 1980s and have been run for profit not people ever since.

Labour's Bus Services Bill, introduced to Parliament in December 2024, will give Councils the power to own and run bus services. Local leaders will have the power to run services that deliver for passengers.

People in Kirkstall are tired of poor bus services, and this exciting news shows that the new Labour Government is serious about improving the services that are the lifeblood of our communities.

Your Labour Councillors are working with Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire, to build a bus service fit for purpose. Reliable bus services are essential to enable people to get to jobs, education, health appointments and out to enjoy their lives.

# Kirkstall ward winter warmers

Food, warmth and support this winter

## FOOD PANTRY

St Stephen's Church Hall, Norman Street, LS5 3JN

Small supermarket browsing style set up.

£6 weekly cost to receive fresh, dried & tinned goods.

To receive a referral contact Adele: 07900 986570 or 07355 670310

## ST MARY'S & ST ANDREW'S FOOD PROJECT

St Andrew's Church, Butcher Hill, LS16 5HB Monday 9-3 & Friday morning.

Free parcel with essential food items. Frozen pre cooked meals for people in most need.

To receive a referral contact Cherie: 0773 1346988.

## COMMUNITY KITCHEN

22 Hawksworth Avenue, LS5 3PN.

All food is end of date or just post date. All food free to anyone regardless of financial situation.

Open market stall accessible 9am till 6pm daily.

## LEEDS NORTH AND WEST FOOD BANK

St Matthias Church Hall (also known as St Matt's) Burley Road, LS4 2DZ.

Open every Tuesday, 10-12.

Tel: 0113 269 2985. Referral needed.



## Queenswood Tenants and Residents' Association (QTARA)

Queenswood Court lounge, Queenswood Gardens, LS6 3EG.

Coffee morning and welcome space. Tuesday mornings 9.30-12.

Email [Queenswood.tara@outlook.com](mailto:Queenswood.tara@outlook.com) for more information or just turn up

## WARM SPACES



HAVA Big Local

Our drop in sessions provide a warm, welcoming space for individuals & families to spend time, relax, enjoy complimentary warm drinks & food. Everyone is welcome.

Tuesday & Thursday 3.30-5.30, St Andrew's Church, Butcher Hill, LS16 5HB.

Thursday, 9-12, St Mary's Church, Hawkswood Avenue, LS5 3PT

Monday-Thursday 10-2, St Stephen's Church Hall, Norman Street, LS5 3PN.

## Kirkstall ward has 3 neighbourhood networks supporting people over 60

### HOPS, Hawksworth Wood Older People's Service

Hawksworth Wood Village Hall, Hawksworth Crescent, LS5 3PT. Tel: 0113 228 5552.

Email [info@hops-leeds.org.uk](mailto:info@hops-leeds.org.uk)

HOPS is a local initiative focused on improving the lives of older adults, particularly those over 60, by addressing issues such as loneliness and isolation. The service offers a wide range of activities and support systems that are designed to help older people remain active, socially engaged, and mentally stimulated.

### OWLS, Older Wiser Local Seniors

52 North Lane, Headingley LS16 3HU. Tel: 0113 369 7077.

Email: [infoowls@gmail.com](mailto:infoowls@gmail.com)

OWLS offers support, activities and opportunities to socialise to seniors (over 60) living in Headingley, Hyde Park, Burley, Little Woodhouse and parts of Kirkstall. Our aim is to enable members to live healthy, independent lives for as long as possible.



### STEP, Supporting The Elderly People

Shannon House, Off Spen Lane, LS16 5EJ.

Tel 0113 2757988.

Email [step.2.step@btconnect.com](mailto:step.2.step@btconnect.com)

We provide a centre for the over 60s and a range of activities. Contact us for more information.



## Councillor and MP surgeries and contact details

The Kirkstall Councillors have two surgeries per month alongside food banks in the ward.

We are at St Matthias Church, Burley Road, on the second Tuesday of every month 10-12 and St Andrew's Church, Butcher Hill, on the fourth Friday of every month 10-12.

St Matthias Church (also known as St Matt's as this is the name of the congregation that worships there) is facing onto Burley Road between St Matthias Street and Wolsley Road. The surgery is in the parish centre, which is behind the church and down a long ramp.

If you would like to see us away from these times or venues, you can contact us on the details opposite and we will either deal with your query by phone or email, or arrange to meet you in a public place.



Cllr Fiona Venner 07749 551732  
[fiona.venner@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.venner@leeds.gov.uk)



Cllr Andy Rontree 07733 206373  
[andy.rontree@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:andy.rontree@leeds.gov.uk)



Cllr Hannah Bithell 07717 415471  
[Hannah.bithell@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.bithell@leeds.gov.uk)



If you wish to contact our MP, Alex Sobel, his office number is 0113 898 0969  
[alex.sobel.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:alex.sobel.mp@parliament.uk)

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